

Family Medicine Interest Day Renamed for Rebecca S. Seignious

The 22nd Annual South Carolina AHEC Family Medicine Interest Day was held on August 27, 2011 at the Embassy Suites in Columbia, South Carolina. This event is sponsored by the Statewide Family Practice Residency Directors, the South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium (AHEC) and the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians (SCAFP). The purpose of this program is to stimulate interest and enthusiasm in the field of Family Medicine.

Sixty nine medical students from twenty one medical schools attended the Interest Day. Members of the Academy attended the opening luncheon to talk with the students and to answer any questions they may have about Family Medicine. Academy representatives in attendance were: Jony Bolinger, MD, President; Tan Platt, MD, Delegate to the American Academy of Family Physicians; Walter Connor, MD, Board Member; Jeff Cashman, MD, Resident Board Member; Lee Day, Board Member, University of South Carolina School of Medicine Family Medicine Interest Group President; Paquita Turner, Executive Vice President, and Patty Kirk, Speaker



and Exhibits Coordinator. All of these Academy representatives are true champions for Family Medicine in South Carolina!

After lunch, each student selected four hands-on workshops conducted by South Carolina AHEC's Family Medicine Residency Training Programs' Directors and faculty. These workshops included:

- GYN Procedures (Implanon Insertion, IUD Placement, Endometrial Biopsy) - *Anderson*
- Joint Injections - *Charleston*
- Delivery and Infant Care Simulation - *Columbia*
- Bedside Ultrasound for the Family Physician - *Florence*
- Basic Suturing Techniques - *Greenville*
- Casting - *Greenwood*
- Wilderness Medicine - *Seneca*
- Vasectomy - *Spartanburg*

After the hands-on workshops, medical students attended a recruiting fair where South Carolina's eight Family Medicine Residency Programs and five out-of-state residency programs discussed their respective residency programs with the students in the hopes of recruiting them into their program.



SOUTH CAROLINA CLINICAL AND
TRANSLATIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE



Community Engagement Program

The South Carolina Clinical and Translational Research Institute (SCTR) is the catalyst for changing the culture of biomedical research, facilitating sharing of resources and expertise, and streamlining research-related processes to bring about large-scale change in the clinical and translational research efforts in South Carolina.

The Community Engagement Program, one of eleven programs under the SCTR Institute umbrella, recently merged with the Center for Community Health Partnerships (CCHP) to increase capacity to engage communities and practices in

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Lori M. Dickerson, PharmD Receives Excellence In Family Medicine Education Award

The second annual South Carolina AHEC Excellence in Family Medicine Education Award was presented to Lori M. Dickerson, PharmD at the South Carolina AHEC Resident Scholarship Symposium on June 18, 2011.

This award was established to honor a non-physician teacher for excellence in resident education, with demonstrated skills in teaching, curriculum development, mentoring, research, and leadership in education.

Dr. Dickerson is the Associate Director of the Trident/MUSC Family Medicine Residency Program. She received her Bachelor of Science in Pharmacy from Dalhousie University in 1991 and received her Doctor of Pharmacy from the Medical University of South Carolina in 1993. She has been involved in Family Medicine education since that time.

Dr. Peter Carek, Director of the Trident/MUSC Family Medicine Residency Program, presented this award to Dr. Dickerson. Below are excerpts from the letter that he submitted on her behalf:

"Since joining our faculty in 1994, Dr. Dickerson's outstanding teaching abilities have been well recognized consistently by both residents and faculty. Over the past 15 years, she has been awarded the Golden Oyster Faculty Teaching Award (1995, 1999, 2002), the Faculty Excellence Award (2000), and the Teacher of the Year Award (2009). Dr. Dickerson is a great example of a teacher who is able to utilize evidence-based practice and apply it to the education of residents and the medical care of individual patients. Seemingly every day a resident, faculty member or residency graduate seeks her advice regarding a specific patient care issue. As we have come to expect, Dr. Dickerson makes herself extremely available to assist in a most professional and caring manner."

"On a regional and national level, she is a very productive and active Family Medicine scholar. She has been an author or coauthor on 56 peer reviewed journal articles, 11 chapters in scholarly books and monographs, and 2 peer reviewed electronic publications. Furthermore, she has participated



Dr. Dickerson receives Excellence in Family Medicine Award from Dr. Garr at the 2011 South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians' Annual Meeting.

in over 100 invited and submitted scientific presentations during national and internal meetings of medical organizations. In particular, Dr. Dickerson is a nationally and internationally recognized leader in the area of research and quality improvement in Family Medicine education, from curriculum development, to mentoring students and residents, and then to investigating the outcomes of such educational activities."

"Dr. Dickerson is a most deserving recipient of the SC AHEC Excellence in Family Medicine Education Award. Her outstanding and exemplary activities and accomplishments as a teacher, scholar and clinician in Family Medicine have been recognized locally, regionally, nationally and internationally. She has demonstrated excellence in teaching, curriculum development, mentoring, research, and leadership in education at all levels, characteristics that epitomize this award."

Congratulations to Dr. Lori Dickerson!

South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium

Executive Director
David R. Garr, MD

South Carolina AHEConnects Editors
Ragan DuBose-Morris, MA
Jessica Huggins, BS

the translational research process via bidirectional dialogues. The merged entity represents researchers, clinicians, educators, and community partners whose mission is to engage and partner with communities in research and initiatives that promote health, reduce the risk of illness and disease, and build community resilience. The vision of this program is to transform health care and eliminate health disparities by engaging academic-community partnerships in South Carolina and beyond. The overall goal is to promote the translation, implementation, diffusion, and adoption of evidence-based treatments and interventions in clinical and community settings designed to improve the health of diverse populations.

The Community Engagement Program operates to facilitate bi-directional communication and information exchange between SCTR investigators, regional and state community stakeholders, and national audiences for the purpose of disseminating research opportunities and findings. Through the development of a community based "Network of Networks" it aims to lead innovations, discoveries, and translation of evidence into community settings. By leveraging the capacity of academic-community partners to conduct community-based participatory research (CBPR), translational research, comparative effectiveness research, implementation science, along with other methodologies, the aim is to improve health in and with the community. The Community Engagement Program also partners to implement community-based recruitment and retention strategies to increase participation in research studies.

Under the *Support Center for Clinical & Translational Science* (SUCCESS), which is the universally accessible, consolidated entry point for SCTR and other institutional research services, cores, and programs, investigators and research teams are linked to SCTR services and institutional resources where support spans the entire research spectrum, from inception of ideas through technology transfer and dissemination of best practice models. Support services include: guidance, training, and resources for investigators and study teams at any point in the research process. If you are an investigator, research team, community organization or community member with an interest and/or need for support services in community engaged research, please submit a request for service via the SCTR website www.sctr.musc.edu.

Pilot project funding is also available for Community-University Partnerships in research. These pilots are currently accepted on a continual basis with a cut-off the 20th of every month for review the following month. These funds are made available to address a community health issue and must include a PI from a SCTR-affiliated academic institution, at least one Co-I from a community entity, and a plan to share findings with the community. Budgets in this pilot project category are accepted up to \$20,000. For further information on this funding opportunity and other SCTR funding opportunities, please contact Dayan Ranwala, PhD, Email: ranwala@musc.edu Phone: 843-792-1498 or visit the SCTR website.

A subscription to the monthly e-Newsletter for announcements, resource information and other news is also available. Please email Meredith Kerr at vanruymm@musc.edu to be added to our mailing list. For additional information on the Community Engagement Program, please see contact information below and visit the SCTR website www.sctr.musc.edu for all programs and services.

New programs are being offered on the SCHOOLS network of videoconferencing systems across the state. Looking for innovative programs in your backyard? Then visit www.scahec.net/schools, or your regional AHEC's website, and register today!



Employment Outlook March 2011

Fastest Growing Healthcare Occupations in South Carolina

Every two years, the South Carolina Department of Commerce and the federal Bureau of Labor Statistics collaborate to estimate future employment levels for a wide variety of healthcare occupations. Their most recent report covers the period from 2008 to 2018. Total workforce growth is calculated over the entire period and then translated into an expected number of job openings each year. The number of annual openings includes those due to growth (new jobs) and those created when people leave the workforce through retirement, career change, or for other reasons (replacements).

The two tables presented here show which healthcare occupations are expected to grow the fastest in South Carolina during that period. Table 1 lists the occupations with the largest number of expected annual job openings. Table 2 lists the occupations that are growing at the fastest rate, based on the percentage of growth expected from the 2008 levels.



Table 1. Top 10 Fastest Growing Healthcare Occupations by Estimated Annual Openings

Occupational Title	Employment			Total % Change	Average Annual Openings
	Actual 2008	Estimated 2018	Total Change		
1) Registered Nurses	38,401	48,021	9,620	25%	1,633
2) Nursing, Psychiatric, and Home Health Aides	31,632	39,207	7,575	24%	1,073
3) Nursing Aides, Orderlies, and Attendants	20,094	23,395	3,301	16%	530
4) Licensed Practical / Vocational Nurses	9,955	11,851	1,896	19%	501
5) Pharmacy Technicians	5,494	7,631	2,137	39%	353
6) Medical Assistants	7,099	9,484	2,385	34%	318
7) Pharmacists	4,419	5,476	1,057	24%	204
8) Dental Assistants	3,247	4,446	1,199	37%	181
9) Dental Hygienists	2,599	3,578	979	38%	151
10) Physicians and Surgeons, All Other	2,877	3,523	646	22%	116

Note: The group "Physicians and Surgeons, All Other" contains the following job titles: Allergists and Immunologists, Dermatologists, Hospitalists, Neurologists, Nuclear Medicine Physicians, Ophthalmologists, Pathologists, Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation Physicians, Preventive Medicine Physicians, Radiologists, Sports Medicine Physicians, and Urologists

Registered Nurses and nursing assistants in direct care roles are the largest healthcare occupational groups in South Carolina. Due to their large size, and that demand for their services is expected to increase over time,

the number of annual job openings expected for nursing personnel is 2 or 3 times larger than for any other healthcare occupation listed in Table 1. When Licensed Practical Nurses are added to this picture, it is clear that the demand for nursing services, at all skill levels, will dominate South Carolina healthcare employment in the near future.

Fastest Growing Healthcare Occupations in South Carolina

The healthcare occupations expected to grow the fastest, based on the total percentage change in numbers employed from 2008 to 2018, are listed in Table 2.

Table 2. Top 10 Fastest Growth Healthcare Occupations by Total % Change

Occupational Title	Employment			Total % Change	Average Annual Openings
	Actual 2008	Estimated 2018	Total Change		
1) Physician Assistants	595	833	238	40%	35
2) Pharmacy Technicians	5,494	7,631	2,137	39%	353
3) Dental Hygienists	2,599	3,578	979	38%	151
4) Dental Assistants	3,247	4,446	1,199	37%	181
5) Radiation Therapists	243	330	87	36%	13
6) Medical Assistants	7,099	9,484	2,385	34%	318
7) Audiologists	127	169	42	33%	7
8) Surgical Technologists	1,712	2,236	524	31%	95
9) Surgeons	770	996	226	29%	37
10) Obstetricians and Gynecologists	445	571	126	28%	21
10) Physical Therapists	2,415	3,096	681	28%	97

Note: There was a tie for tenth place based on overall percent change from 2008 levels, so both occupations are listed in the table.

The demand for Pharmacy Technicians, Medical Assistants, Dental Assistants, and Dental Hygienists is expected to be large both in terms of the average number of annual openings that are anticipated and as a large percentage change over the 2008-2018 period. Smaller allied health groups, such as audiologists or radiation therapists are expected to grow by more than 30%, but their small numbers will result in many fewer job openings relative to the larger occupations. Two types of physicians are listed among the 10 fastest growing fields, based on percentage change from their 2008 levels: surgeons and obstetricians/gynecologists.

Note: Counts of the number of employed healthcare professionals listed in the tables above are based on survey data collected by the Department of Commerce and may differ from counts based on analysis of South Carolina license data as presented in the "South Carolina Health Professions Data Book."

Data Source: Unpublished tables provided by the South Carolina Department of Commerce "2008 - 2018 Healthcare Workforce in South Carolina by Occupational Title." National occupational projections can be found at: <http://www.bls.gov/news.release/ecopro.toc.htm>.

For more information, please visit the Office for Healthcare Workforce website: www.officeforhealthcareworkforce.org

Concussion Management In Young Athletes

Kay Lambert, Pee Dee AHEC

Nationwide millions of children and teens play sports, and many of these sports we know as “contact” sports, where “body blows” or “hits” occur throughout the competitive activities. Boxing, football, and lacrosse are examples of sports that see “body blows.” Blows to the head are particularly concerning in that traumatic brain injury can occur resulting in various brain functioning changes, including memory, processing speed, and reaction time. Commonly, we hear the word concussion used in these cases.

Who examines these players when injured? How are these concussions prevented in the first place? Who and what process occurs that determines when a player returns to play in the sport again?

Today in our media, there is renewed scrutiny being given to the impact that “hits” have upon our young athletes! Unfortunately, the majority of athletes who sustain a concussion do not have access to concussion experts.

Certified athletic trainers now work at about 40% of the nation’s high schools but are rarely provided for athletes in younger grades according to Kevin Guskiewicz of the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill, NC. Kevin Guskiewicz serves as the lead author of the National Athletic Trainers’ Association statement on management of concussion in young athletes.

Major US sports leagues have already taken steps to reduce head injuries/concussions and improve treatment for concussion. Last December, after reports of research on older National Football League (NFL) players suggested a higher risk for Alzheimer’s, the NFL expanded the list of concussion symptoms that would keep a player off the field and order return-to-play decisions/protocol. The term “helmet to helmet” hits is being closely examined with resulting fines and even possible suspension as a consequence.

Also occurring is a state-by-state trend that legislation is being implemented to provide parameters to reduce the life changing effects upon

youth through active measures in prevention of concussion and its effects upon young athletes. Sadly, if you research the laws and those that are pending, there is a child’s name that accompanies the law.

Pee Dee AHEC cosponsored a program on May 20, 2011 at the McLeod Medical Plaza Conference Center that addressed the intricate facets of concussion management including prevention in our young athletes. Well over 100 participants attended this training, which included school nurses, athletic trainers, physicians, physician assistants, medical residents, physical therapists, and occupational therapists.



Speakers: (left to right) Dr. Denton, Dr. French, Dr. Blair, Dr. Wierciseiwski, and Paul John, Director, McLeod Regional Medical Center, Sports Medicine, Florence, SC

Guest presenters included, Dr. David R. Wierciseiwski, Program Director of Carolina Sports Concussion Program, Charlotte, NC and Dr. Jonathon French, Psy.D, University of Pittsburg Medical Center, Sports Medicine Concussion Program, Neuropsychology Fellow, Pittsburg, Pennsylvania. Local

Florence physicians that were presenters were Dr. William Naso, Florence Neurosurgery and Spine, Dr. Patrick Denton, Pee Dee Orthopaedics, and Dr. Brian Blair, McLeod Orthopaedics. Other speakers included athletic trainers from the Pee Dee area. Vendors displayed new up-to-date sports equipment including football helmets with new technology.

All of the information above is factual. When the program participants viewed a video that told a family’s story, the “impact” was not just facts. There were faces, names and reality. Should you have a gift of time of 11 minutes and 55 seconds, Preston Pleveretes’ story sends a powerful message of reality. Should you have a young athlete in your family, this story can be compelling. Preston’s expressed desire is for individuals to learn how a real difference can occur in the lives of young athletes. Mostly what he expressed is that he DOES NOT want what occurred to him to happen to other young athletes. You can view his story at: <http://espn.go.com/video/clip?id=5163151>.

Halford Award For Leadership In Humane Education Presented to Dr. Tiller



The 2011 South Carolina AHEC James G. Halford, Jr., MD Award for Leadership in Humane Education was bestowed on Robert J. Tiller, MD on June 17, 2011 at the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians' Annual Meeting in Litchfield Beach, SC.

The Halford Award is named after the founding director of the AnMed Family Residency training program and is presented to a Family Medicine residency training program faculty member in recognition of outstanding leadership in providing humane education. Award winners demonstrate a caring attitude and respect for patients, residents and students; values human dignity; demonstrates a passion and joy for teaching, learning and working with others and participates in community service activities.

Dr. Tiller graduated from the Indiana University School of Medicine and completed Family Medicine Residency at Self Regional Healthcare where he was Chief Resident. He won the coveted Mead Johnson Award for Graduate Education in Family Practice and was voted the outstanding resident for the program. After his residency, he practiced in a needy rural setting for almost four years before becoming a faculty member at Self Regional Healthcare Family Medicine Residency Program where he has served for ten years and distinguished himself in all areas.

Dr. David Garr, Executive Director of the South Carolina AHEC, presented Dr. Tiller the Halford Award. Dr. Garr read some of the excerpts from the letters that were submitted on behalf of Dr. Tiller including a letter from Dr. Gary Goforth, Director of Medical Education and the Family Medicine Residency Program Director at Self Regional Healthcare:

"Dr. Tiller has served as a model clinician, faculty member, and Interim Director of Medical Education and the Family Medicine Residency Program Director during my sabbatical to Kabul, Afghanistan in 2008-2009. Patients, residents, faculty, and community leaders have recognized him for his strong clinical skills and his excellence in education that always exhibits great compassion and respect for patients and learners working with Dr. Tiller."

"As the recipient of the Outstanding Faculty of the Year Award in 2002, 2004, and 2005, Dr. Tiller has been recognized by our residents as a premier teacher in our institution. He was honored by the medical staff with the Physician Service Excellence Award for the first quarter of 2010."

"Dr. Tiller's involvement in the Greenwood community has also been outstanding. He has served on the Palmetto Christian Academy Board of Directors, the Community Initiatives Inc. Board of Directors, the Piedmont Technical College Foundation Board of Directors, the Cross Roads Women's Center Advisory Board, the Philippine Mission Board of Directors as well as a Team Physician with Erskine College and a volunteer physician with the Festival of Flowers Triathlon. He has served as a Team Leader and is now on the Board of Directors for Volunteers in Medical Missions (VIMM). He serves as the Chair of the VIMM Trip Steering and Long Range Planning Committee and leads one team per year to Peru where thousands of patients are treated and our residents learn valuable triage, clinical, and procedural skills. Dr. Tiller has also served as a volunteer physician with World Medical Missions in Kenya. I have also been thrilled to have him involved in our Greater Greenwood United Ministries Free Medical Clinic and the Clinica Gratis Free Clinic."

Dr. Dave Sealy, Director of the Primary Care Sports Medicine Fellowship, at Self Regional Healthcare writes:

"Residents and patients alike routinely comment on his compassion and caring and he is often named by residents as not only an outstanding role model but the type of physician they wish to become."

"He is recognized by the community physicians and senior hospital administration as a bright and competent physician and served as the interim program director and Director of Medical Education at Self Regional Healthcare's Family Medicine Residency Program while Dr. Goforth was on sabbatical. His transition to this role has been seamless and Rob has handled it with grace and humility while very skillfully continuing the

outstanding leadership to which we have become accustomed. Indeed he has recruited exceptionally well, administered the program with total respect from the faculty and has modeled servant leadership.”

In summary, Dr. Tiller truly embodies all of the attributes sought in a recipient for the Halford Award. Congratulations to Dr. Tiller!

Graduates Of The SC AHEC Family Medicine Residency Programs: High Quality Physicians Providing Valuable Services To Our State

As an organization, the South Carolina Area Health Education Consortium (SC AHEC) is committed to “the recruitment, education and retention of primary health care providers.” Consistent with its core mission, SC AHEC places emphasis on primary care residency programs, seeking to increase the number of physicians practicing in South Carolina in these specialties. Since 1973, SC AHEC has provided support to Family Medicine Residency Programs located throughout the state in Anderson, Charleston, Columbia, Florence, Greenville, Greenwood, Seneca, and Spartanburg.

As family medicine physicians and other primary care health care providers serve a vital role in our complex health care system, the SC AHEC Family Medicine Residency Programs regularly seek information about their graduates in terms of practice location and community they serve. To gather information, a survey of recent graduates (2005-09) was conducted and the results have provided very interesting information regarding the effectiveness of these programs in providing primary care physicians to the people and state of South Carolina:

- More than half of the graduates (52.2%) practice in South Carolina.
- A majority (95.6%) are certified by the American Board of Family Medicine.
- Most graduates (71.1%) practice in a community of fewer than 100,000 persons.
- These physicians provide care to a wide spectrum of patient populations, from the elderly to the newborn and very young.

These findings are consistent with the mission of SC AHEC “to educate and retain primary health care providers.” These Family Medicine Residency Programs are graduating high quality physicians that are providing medical care in South Carolina to a wide range of patients in both urban and rural settings.

An AHEC Icon Retires

During Family Medicine Interest Day, the South Carolina Family Medicine Residency Training Program Directors Council recognized the leadership and contributions of Becky Seignious and proclaimed that Family Medicine Interest Day would be named the Rebecca S. Seignious Family Medicine Interest Day.

Becky began her career at MUSC in January 1968 with the South Carolina Regional Medical Program and participated in the preparation of the federal



grant funding request that would be the impetus for the South Carolina AHEC. She spent her entire career in service to medical students, medical residents, rural health care practitioners and communities, and the South Carolina Statewide Family

Medicine Residency Training Program rising to the rank of Director of the South Carolina AHEC Recruitment and Retention Program.

During her career she participated in the development and administration of the South Carolina AHEC recruitment and retention events such as the Student Health Coalition, the Practice Opportunities Fair, the Family Medicine Interest Day, the Rural Physician Program, the Locum Tenens Program, and the Rural Dentist Program. She participated in the development and administration of the South Carolina Office of Rural Health and has been the recipient of the South Carolina AHEC Ambassador Award and the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians President’s Award.

The South Carolina Family Medicine Residency Training Program Directors Council extends its deepest appreciation for Becky’s leadership, support and active commitment and wishes her deserved, continued, and increasing success and happiness in her retirement. Becky’s responsibilities for the South Carolina AHEC Recruitment and Retention Program will be assumed by Kristin Cochran, MHA.

Mid-Carolina AHEC Health Professions Students

Mid-Carolina AHEC is proud to wrap up another fiscal year with outstanding totals recorded in their database. One hundred and seventy total placements covered 838 weeks, with 98 of those placements needing housing for a total of 426 weeks. The placements had students working with 91 preceptors at 53 different sites. While working with those preceptors, the students had a total of nearly 30,000 patient contacts. In addition to PA and medical student placements, HPS Coordinators Jeff Cauthen and Julie Ghent had several nurse practitioner and pharmacy (PharmD) students work with preceptors in their territory. The work of these coordinators continues to make the Mid-Carolina AHEC region a great place for students to get their hands-on training and, hopefully, come back to work when they're done!

Julie has also recruited new preceptors for the upcoming year's placements. Preceptors will, for various personal and professional reasons, decide from time to time to reduce or possibly eliminate their student load. This means that continuing to cultivate new relationships with providers is essential to having those clinical placements each new class of students will need.

Mid-Carolina AHEC Continuing Education

For CE, this quarter has been filled with transition and change. Pam Bartley, the former Multidisciplinary Education Coordinator at Mid-Carolina AHEC, left AHEC to serve as an Independent Nurse Consultant and Educator. In October, Mid-Carolina AHEC welcomed Melanie Robertson and Rebecca Jackson, RN as Continuing Education Coordinators. We have 30 live classes scheduled through December 2011, in addition to SCHOOLS Polycom broadcasts and access to Upstate's AHEC U. CE at Mid-Carolina is evolving. In order to meet the needs of our members and participants, we are enhancing our technological capabilities by implementing online payment services, video activities/courses via Polycom, AHEC U, online evaluations, and SCHOOLS.

Mid-Carolina AHEC continues to provide cosponsor services to the healthcare community. At the end of August, Joyce Harriger helped coordinate the South Carolina & North Carolina 18th Annual Perinatal Partnership: Leading the Race to Best Practice. They had 150 participants. At the end of October, Pam Harper will be assisting with the HIV/STD Conference: Reform, Transform, Perform - Maximizing Our Impact, which usually has a minimum of 350 participants.

Mid-Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program

The Mid-Carolina AHEC Health Careers Program is proud to announce a new partnership with the Midlands Technical College Department of Nursing, which will serve as a host site for the Health Careers Academy. The students will not only have a place to meet but will also have access to a state of the art computer lab bimonthly, as well as a chance to observe laboratory classes. The Health Careers Program is very excited about the new experiences the students will have this school year.

This summer Mid-Carolina AHEC had 13 HCA students intern at Providence Hospitals, Palmetto Pediatrics, First Physical Therapy, and Palmetto Richland Hospital in Columbia, SC. The students were given a variety of hands on experiences, including opportunities to work in the ER, Trauma Unit, Burn Unit, and Respiratory Unit. Paulquonia Gilmore, a freshman at Columbia College in this Fall, stated "Providence Hospitals was the best hands-on learning experience and had the nicest staff who were gentle, kind, and accepted questions with open arms."

HCP student Maya Dilligard had a chance to work with Palmetto Pediatrics, rotating through their five offices and different departments. She stated, "Palmetto Peds was a great internship in that I was able to see not only what a Pediatrician does, but also how patients are referred to other departments." All thirteen students had wonderful experiences and Mid-Carolina AHEC would like to extend a warm thank you to all involved in making their internships a success.

The South Carolina AHEC Resident Scholarship Symposium

The South Carolina AHEC Resident Scholarship Symposium was held in conjunction with the South Carolina Academy of Family Physicians' Annual Meeting on June 17 and 18, 2011 in Pawley's Island, SC.

A total of 45 residents attended, along with the eight family medicine residency program directors and their faculty. Sixteen Abstracts and four posters were presented. The residents were invited to dinner featuring a Lowcountry boil with Academy members Friday evening.

On Saturday afternoon, a Chief Residents' Seminar designed for physicians who will be Chief Residents during the 2011-12 academic year was held. The session was conducted by Franklin Medio, Ph.D., Consulting Services for the Health Professions. The agenda included workshops on "Developing Your Individual Leadership Style: How to Put Six Leadership Actions into Practice" and "Integrating Teaching and Patient Care: The Resident as Team Leader." Twelve Chief Residents attended the seminar.

On Friday afternoon and Saturday morning, the Symposium provided an opportunity for residents to present brief 10-minute scholarly presentations. Presentations were categorized into basic research and quality improvement projects. The distinguished panel of judges for the Symposium were Chuck Carter, MD, Director of the Palmetto Health Richland Family Medicine Residency Program; Sandra Counts, PharmD, MUSC AHEC Associate Professor at AnMed Health Family Medicine Residency Program, and Vanessa Diaz, MD, Associate Professor at Trident Medical Center/MUSC Family Medicine Residency Program. Peter Carek, MD, Director at Trident Medical Center/MUSC Family Medicine Residency Program was the Moderator for the Symposium. Awards were presented after the Symposium and cash prizes were presented to the winners pictured here.

The South Carolina AHEC Family Medicine Residency Program Directors sponsored this event. If you have any questions, please contact Kristin Cochran, Director, AHEC Recruitment and Student Programs at (843) 792-6977 or at cochrak@musc.edu.

First Place (\$300.00) – Basic Research

Katherine Seawright, MD and Laura Lee Smith, MD



Trident/MUSC Family Medicine Residency Program
Disagreement in Aspirin Recommendations Using
Risk Calculators in Patients with Diabetes

Second Place (\$150.00) – Basic Research

Brent Duncan, MD



Spartanburg Family Medicine Residency Program
Are Drug Treatment POEMS Reporting Data in
Clinically Useful Ways for Family
Medicine Physicians?

Third Place (\$100.00) – Basic Research

Rachel Hansen, MD



AnMed Health Family Medicine Residency Program
Evaluating Influences on the Diet Quality of
Underserved Patients Using Healthy
Eating Index Scores

First Place (\$300.00) - Quality Improvement

Stania DeJesus, DO and Mary Hiott, MD



Trident/MUSC Family Medicine Residency Program
Missed Opportunities for Human Papilloma Virus
Vaccination

Second Place (\$150.00) - Quality Improvement

Chris Oxendine, MD



Self Regional Healthcare Family Medicine
Residency Program
Designing a Longitudinal and Self-Directed
Practice Management Curriculum in a
Community Based Residency Program

Third Place (\$100.00) - Quality Improvement

Jennifer Bhavsar, MD and Michael Campbell, MD



Trident/MUSC Family Medicine Residency Program
End of Life: Communication and Education

Poster Presentations (\$50.00)

Vincent Carl Slater, DO



Spartanburg Family Medicine Residency Program
Improving Accuracy of Blood Pressure
Measurement in the Outpatient Setting

Save the Date

The 2012 Summer Health Careers
Academy will be held
June 3-8, 2012 in Charleston, SC.

The 2012 Summer Health Careers
Institute will be held
June 12-15, 2012.
Stay tuned for locations!

The 2012 Resident Scholarship
Symposium will be held June 10-11, 2012
at Litchfield Golf and Beach Resort.

The 2012 Rebecca S. Seignious Family
Medicine Interest Day will be held
August 25, 2012.

Information will be posted at
www.scahec.net

Dr. Burgis Receives Ramage Award For Leadership In Humane Education

The sixth Annual Raymond C. Ramage, MD Award for Leadership in Humane Education was presented to Judy T. Burgis, MD, Interim Chair of the Department of Obstetrics and Gynecology at the University of South Carolina School of Medicine, at the Obstetrics and Gynecology Residency Program Graduation Banquet on June 25, 2011.

The Ramage Award was established by South Carolina AHEC to recognize a deserving faculty member in a specialty other than Family Medicine. The award is based on a similar award, The Halford Award, which recognizes leadership in humanism in Family Medicine. Dr. Raymond Ramage was an integral part of the formation of the South Carolina Consortium of Community Teaching Hospitals in 1970 and was a "founding father" of the South Carolina AHEC in 1972. From 1979 to 1982, he served as chairman of a task force on graduate medical education charged with developing and integrating South Carolina's medical education schools and teaching hospitals, and he served as Governor Carroll Campbell's appointee on the South Carolina Commission on Higher Education from 1988 to 1996.

Dr. Burgis' medical career began in Charleston as a medical technologist. She then made a decision to pursue medical education and graduated from the USC School of Medicine where she also completed her residency and served as Chief Resident. Dr. Burgis remained in the Columbia area and began a private practice in Obstetrics and Gynecology at Women Physicians Associates. She joined the faculty of USC School of Medicine as a clinical Assistant Professor at that time, and in 2004, Dr. Burgis joined the faculty at USC School of Medicine full time as an Assistant Professor.

Below are excerpts from the letters that were submitted on behalf of Dr. Burgis:

"One of Dr. Burgis' greatest contributions has been her role as the Interim Chairman. While she has only served in this position for about eight months, she has made tremendous progress. Her leadership style is to develop and promote those who work under her. She clearly understands that faculty who are supported are better teachers, which serves to strengthen the residency program. Her support in curriculum development and designing new educational initiatives has made the job of Program Director much easier. She is always coming up with ways to improve resident education by integrating the community physicians into resident education."

"Despite her experience and skill, she remains humble in her interactions with students, residents and other attending physicians, regardless of sub-specialty. She is genuinely enthusiastic in her clinical discussions and in her teaching. She participates in teaching opportunities at the University of South Carolina Medical School as well as in the community. She offers graciously to perform lectures, and participate in clinical and specialty interest discussions despite busy clinical and administrative schedules. Dr. Burgis is a stellar example of a modern academician, who has embraced technology, the changing needs of present day medicine and does so with grace, a continued enthusiasm for teaching and what is to come."

"Dr. Burgis' area of medical interest includes adolescent gynecology. As she pursued this interest, she has created a clinical environment for safe and effective education and treatment of adolescents and children in the metropolitan Columbia area. These services did not exist prior to the creation of an adolescent gynecology program at USC. As a result of this, health utilization by adolescents in metro Columbia has increased and the teenage pregnancy rate has decreased."

"Dr. Burgis has volunteered with Palmetto Girls State for over ten years. What started as volunteering for one week in the summer has become a year-round commitment. While Palmetto Girls State is held in June, preparation for the program is ongoing throughout the year. Dr. Burgis is available year-round to assist with planning of the program and is present during the weeklong session in June. For a professional to take an entire week to staff a volunteer program requires a big sacrifice, but that with Dr. Burgis' work throughout the year in this youth program displays selflessness, dedication, service to community, and a commitment to helping others."

Congratulations to Dr. Burgis on receiving the 2011 Ramage Award!

Health Careers Academy Fellows Experience On-Campus Environment

Students who have an interest in careers in nursing, dental medicine, medicine and pharmacy spent the week of June 5 – 10, 2011 on the campus of Medical University of South Carolina. Forty-one undergraduate students, selected through applications, spent the week networking with practicing health professionals and health professions training program faculty and staff during the eighth annual Summer Health Careers Academy. The Academy is designed to increase the acceptance, retention, and graduation rates of under-represented minority and disadvantaged students to nursing, dental, medicine and pharmacy training programs in South Carolina. In collaboration with the MUSC College of Dental Medicine, College of Medicine, College of Nursing, College of Pharmacy, and Library, the South Carolina AHEC annually sponsors the Academy to provide a glimpse inside the experiences of a health professions student.

Nursing Fellow, Jada Suber, found the 2011 Academy to be beneficial, "I have received a lot of information and great contacts that will help me to get exactly where I want to be in the future."

The curriculum offers a series of didactic, clinical and observation sessions, professional development workshops, and networking opportunities to support the academic growth of the participants. The 2011 Academy Fellows worked in small groups to develop informational presentations, which highlighted the health disparities of adolescent depression, hypertension, osteoporosis, and periodontal disease. The week's agenda culminates with presentations of poster projects that are scored by a panel of judges comprised of faculty, staff and practicing professionals.

The 2011 Poster Presentation Winners are:

First Place:

Trinh Chu	Medicine Fellow	Furman University
Dawn Flowers	Pharmacy Fellow	University of South Carolina
Demetrius Johnson	Nursing Fellow	Midlands Technical College
Angelique Mole	Medicine Fellow	Claflin University
DeAna Smalls	Pharmacy Fellow	Howard University
Jessica White	Nursing Fellow	Greenville Technical College

Second Place:

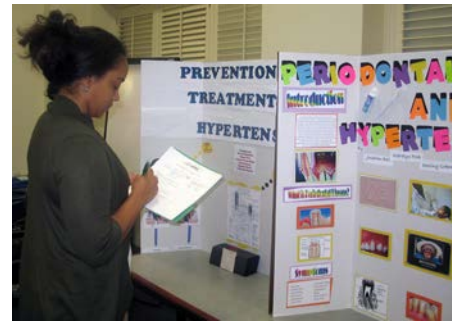
Sierra Mathis	Nursing Fellow	University of South Carolina Upstate
Chaniqua Mazyck	Medicine Fellow	University of South Carolina
Nashikwa Mellerson	Pharmacy Fellow	University of South Carolina
Latifah Richardson	Nursing Fellow	Florence-Darlington Technical College
Lauren Snider	Medicine Fellow	Clemson University
Marlayda Woods	Nursing Fellow	Greenville Technical College

Third Place:

Chanelle Baker	Medicine Fellow	Francis Marion University
Darius Hammett	Nursing Fellow	Nursing Fellow
Morgan Lange	Pharmacy Fellow	Clemson University
Isaiah Martin	Nursing Fellow	Claflin University
Jada Suber	Medicine Fellow	Presbyterian College
Daneka Vanderhall	Nursing Fellow	Francis Marion University

Nursing Fellow, Aminah Frasier, was acknowledged by the Academy participants as the 2011 Peer Role Model.

Continued on Page 14...



The remaining members of the 2011 Academy Fellows class are:

Joshua Anderson	Dental Medicine Fellow	Bob Jones University
Jonathan Bell	Dental Medicine Fellow	Clemson University
Michelle Davis	Nursing Fellow	University of South Carolina
Aminah Frasier	Nursing Fellow	Medical University of South Carolina
Kendralyn Folk	Dental Medicine Fellow	South Carolina State University
Megan Ford	Medicine Fellow	University of South Carolina
Destiny Greene	Dental Medicine Fellow	Coastal Carolina University
LaShanda Haynes	Medicine Fellow	College of Charleston
Valerie Henry	Nursing Fellow	University of South Carolina Upstate
Bridget Janse	Nursing Fellow	College of Charleston
Marquis Johnson	Pharmacy Fellow	University of South Carolina
Morgan Lange	Pharmacy Fellow	Clemson University
Justin Lewis	Medicine Fellow	Anderson University
Deleisha McFadden	Nursing Fellow	University of South Carolina Upstate
Nishikwa Mellerson	Pharmacy Fellow	University of South Carolina
Tevin Proctor	Dental Medicine Fellow	College of Charleston
Uniqa Roberson	Nursing Fellow	College of Charleston
Shannon Snipe	Dental Medicine Fellow	College of Charleston
Tiesha Spicer-Jones	Nursing Fellow	Lander University
Kayla Stayley	Medicine Fellow	Howard University
Keenan Summers	Medicine Fellow	North Greenville University
Anh Truong	Pharmacy Fellow	University of South Carolina
Benisha Webb	Medicine Fellow	Clemson University
Sara Witherspoon	Medicine Fellow	Howard University



Interested in Learning More About South Carolina AHEC Health Careers Programs?

Complete an information request form online at www.scahec.net. Information will be sent to you for any of our programs.

Programs Include: Health Careers Academy, Summer Institute & Summer Health Careers Academy

Look For Us On
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/healthcareers

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www.scahec.net

Health Careers Summer Institute Lifts Hope



One hundred and twenty high school and undergraduate students from across the state attended the South Carolina AHEC 2011 Health Careers Summer Institute on the campus

of University of South Carolina Aiken June 14-17. The event has been sponsored annually since 1999 to provide an intensive opportunity for health career exploration and preparation. The 2011 Institute theme,

"Lifting Hope: One Heart & One Dream at a Time," was submitted by Mid-Carolina AHEC student Nicholas Vaught. In addition to the numerous sessions that provided insight to a variety of primary care and allied health professions, the Institute served as a venue for the implementation of a service learning opportunity. The Golden Harvest Food Bank partnered with the South Carolina AHEC to educate the Institute participants on the plight of hunger experienced by many South Carolinians, and after this session the students distributed food and diapers that they had collected to those in need. Madison Bossart of Mid-Carolina AHEC led in the collection of items with a donation of 278 cans of food to serve an anticipated 300 families from the community of Graniteville, SC.

The competition and recognition awards are an annual mainstay of the Health Careers Summer Institute. AHEC acknowledges the 2011 awardees:

Dr. Cunningham's Journey To Role Model



Dr. Kievers Cunningham is a true AHEC role model! Dr. Cunningham has been active with the South Carolina AHEC since his participation in the Health Careers Program at Lancaster High School in 1990.

Dr. Cunningham attended college at South Carolina State University

and graduated in 1994. He was admitted to the Medical University of South Carolina College of Medicine and graduated in 2003. He attended the McLeod Family Medicine Residency Program in Florence, SC and graduated in 2006. Dr. Cunningham began practicing in Camden, SC and received the South Carolina AHEC Rural Physician Incentive Grant in 2007. In 2010, Dr. Cunningham joined the McLeod Family Medicine Residency Program as Coordinator of Undergraduate Medical Education, where he is teaching students from MUSC and USC, residents in the residency program and providing patient care.

According to Dr. Bill Hester, Director of the McLeod Family Medicine Residency Program:

"It was a pleasure for us to welcome Dr. Cunningham onto the faculty. Our faculty has always come with practice experience and he upheld that tradition. He is becoming a role model to young residents. His demeanor and his leadership are to be valued by young physicians. I am privileged to work with such a fine young man as Kievers Cunningham!"

Essay Competition Winner:

Nick Bruce Lowcountry AHEC

Talent Competition Winner:

Taylor Washington Pee Dee AHEC

Team Building Winners:

Allyson Hollis	Upstate AHEC
Lakeesha Kelly	Pee Dee AHEC
Imani Miller	Lowcountry AHEC
Shametrious McElveen	Pee Dee AHEC
Breyana Smalls	Lowcountry AHEC
Kenya Thomas	Pee Dee AHEC
Whitney Reeder	Upstate AHEC
Wanya Williams	Pee Dee AHEC

South Carolina AHEC Scholarship:

QuiNeisha Hall	Mid-Carolina AHEC
Chanelle Baker	Pee Dee AHEC
Tiphany Boyd	Lowcountry AHEC
Allyson Hollis	Upstate AHEC

Regional Students of the Year:

Ivory Brabham	Lowcountry AHEC
Gladys Praeja	Mid-Carolina AHEC
Terry Waiters	Pee Dee AHEC
Kelsey Williams	Upstate AHEC

South Carolina AHEC Student of the Year:

Kelsey Williams Upstate AHEC

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on our website <http://scahec.net/schools>***

What is SCHOOLS?

SCHOOLS is a collaboration between the South Carolina AHEC system and their partners to provide educational programs for healthcare providers, to facilitate the delivery of curricula by on-campus faculty to students participating in off-campus clinical rotations, and to provide technology to support the development and implementation of collaborative research initiatives across the state.

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Cannon Memorial Hospital
Chester Regional Medical Center
Chesterfield General Hospital
Clarendon Memorial Hospital
Coastal Carolina Medical Center
Edgefield County Hospital
Fairfield Memorial Hospital
Greenville Hospital System
KershawHealth
Laurens County Health Care System
Loris Community Hospital
Lowcountry AHEC (Walterboro)
Marlboro Park Hospital
McLeod Medical Center Darlington
Mid-Carolina AHEC (Lancaster)
Newberry County Memorial Hospital
Oconee Memorial Hospital
Pee Dee AHEC (Florence)
Roper Hospital - Berkeley
South Carolina AHEC
The Regional Medical Center
Upstate AHEC (Greenville)
Upstate Carolina Medical Center

2011 SCHOOLS Programs

October 24

Stroke in Children with Sickle Cell Disease: Past, Present, and Future from Children's Hospital of Philadelphia

October 25

Childhood Cerebral Arteriopathies

November 2

Controlled Substance Prescribing Pharmacology: Focus on Pain Management

November 4

Tuberculosis Update

November 11

End of Life Series (2 of 8): Legalities and Ethics

December 8

End of Life Series (3 of 8): Culture

December 9

Drugs of Abuse and the Brain

December 16

Teenage Suicide Prevention

January 5

End of Life Series (4 of 8): Compassion Fatigue

January 12

Asthma Management for the Pediatric Patient

January 13

Children and Adolescent Mental Health Issues: ADHD and OCD

January 27

Children and Adolescent Mental Health Issues: Anxiety, Depression, and ODD

To view more than 20 scheduled programs for 2012, Visit
<http://scahec.net/schools>.

Upcoming programs include a series addressing end of life issues, and monthly pediatric reports.

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Nursing Student Explores Careers Through Study Abroad

This summer I was blessed with the opportunity to study at University of Western Cape in Bellville, South Africa for ten weeks. I participated in the Minority Health Intensive Research Training (MHIRT) program funded by the National Institute of Health and hosted by John Hopkins University. My goal in this program was to help the research team develop a data collection tool to measure the impact of increased enrollment on nursing programs.

When I arrived in Cape Town, I was surprised to see how similar Cape Town is to the United States. When I envisioned my trip to South Africa, I envisioned a rural area surrounded by open fields with animals everywhere; in contrast, I saw a magnificent Table Mountain in the background surrounded by massive buildings. Cape Town truly is a gorgeous place.

At the University, I stayed in a dorm that was fully equipped with a kitchen, living room, bathroom, and bedrooms. By staying on campus, I was able to meet many new friends. All of the students and faculty members were very nice and hospitable. The students invited me to attend their classes, local brie (barbecues), and church services with them. The students really wanted to show me what Cape Town was like, and I was immersed in their culture learning different things every day. The faculty members went out of their way to welcome me into their families. I attended a birthday party for one individual's husband and received a cooking lesson by another. While in South Africa, I was able to taste Indian dishes such as chicken curry; traditional South African dishes such as Potjiekos, Mielie Pap, and a dish from Ethiopia known as Injera.

During the workday, I researched the nursing shortage by identifying articles related to the nursing shortage in the United States, Philippines, and South Africa. I also attended clinical student nursing rotations. In addition, I had a tour of one of the local maternity hospitals in the area. In South Africa, a majority of the mothers are taught to breastfeed and cup-feed their children. Nurses deliver this education to new mothers. Formula feeding is stigmatized and discouraged and nurses do not advertise formula feeding because it is expensive and requires access to the limited clean water sources.

This experience has allowed me to appreciate opportunities that are available in the U.S. For example, education is not easily available to all South Africans. Most students only attend college if they receive a bursary (scholarship). Most bursaries are for specific majors such as nursing or teaching. These students go to college to study the major mainly to further their education and to obtain a job upon graduation with hopes of pursuing their dreams later in life. This concept was puzzling to me because I do not know if I could put myself in their shoes. I do not understand how a student can study nursing for four years and not have a passion for the field. Many students choose to work as a nurse long enough to save the money to go back to college to obtain a degree that they want.



One difference that I observed during my study in South Africa is that most of the people there are multi-lingual. South Africa is a very diverse country having 11 official languages. Many

people from South Africa are fluent in at least three languages. While some of the languages are very similar to one another, most South Africans continue to learn new languages. Being abroad has increased my desire to learn more about the United States. Most South Africans want to come to the United States because of all the opportunities available here. I am so thankful to have opportunities for educational travel because South African students are not offered similar opportunities.

Overall, this experience has increased my knowledge of and appreciation for my culture while also increasing my knowledge of another culture. This experience has helped make me a better person and has prepared me to be a more culturally competent nurse in the future. This trip has made me want to study in another country so I can learn some more. I am also motivated to learn two additional languages to support my goal of becoming an effective care provider in an increasingly diverse society.

Upstate AHEC student, Lauren Littlejohn, is a senior nursing student at Winston-Salem State University.

South Carolina AHEC News

Kristin Cochran is Named New Director of Recruitment Initiatives

Kristin Cochran recently assumed the role of Director of Recruitment and Student Programs for South Carolina AHEC. Previously, she served as the Student Services Coordinator for South Carolina AHEC and as the Disaster Preparedness and Response Training Coordinator during the Bioterrorism, Public Emergency Grant. In her current role, Kristin collaborates with health professions programs in South Carolina to provide community-based education for undergraduate and graduate students. Kristin's responsibilities have expanded to also include the recruitment and retention of health professionals in South Carolina. The South Carolina AHEC Recruitment and Retention Program sponsors a number of initiatives to address the employment needs of the state's healthcare workforce. Kristin also provides support for South Carolina AHEC's affiliated residency programs and serves as a resource for South Carolina AHEC medical residents.

Kristin is a graduate of the University of Mississippi's Sally McDonnell Barksdale Honors College where she earned a Bachelor of Business Administration. In May 2011 she received her Master in Health Administration from the Medical University of South Carolina where she was First Honor Graduate of her program.

You can contact Kristin at 843-792-6977 or cochrak@musc.edu.

South Carolina AHEC's Newest Employee



Jessica Huggins has joined the program office staff at the South Carolina AHEC as Information Resource Coordinator. She comes from the Pee Dee area and is a graduate of the University of South Carolina with a degree in Visual Communications and Business. Jessica will work with the SCHOOLS network and will assist with its implementation. You can contact Jessica at hugginjr@musc.edu or 843-792-4981.

Ragan DuBose-Morris Serves as Director of Learning Services

Effective of November 1, 2011, Ragan DuBose-Morris has received a faculty appointment in the Medical University of South Carolina's Department of Library Science and informatics. Her new title with South Carolina AHEC is Director of Learning Services. Ragan has a Bachelor of Arts in Communications, a Master of Arts in Media Studies and is presently working on her doctorate in Computing Technology in Education. She can be reached at duboser@musc.edu. or 843-792-9429.

Keep up with all the latest happenings at www.scahec.net



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CALL FOR ARTICLES:

The editorial staff of "South Carolina AHEConnects" welcomes the submission of articles, success stories and upcoming events for the Winter Edition.

Please forward information, articles and photos to Jessica Huggins at hugginjr@muscc.edu The deadline for submissions is December 1, 2011.

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